

Mr. HITCHCOCK (continuing). To the Senators who have been so kind and considerate to me, I assure the Senator from Wisconsin that I do not cherish any personal feelings in any—

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator will please suspend. The hour of 12 o'clock noon having arrived, under the Constitution of the United States I now declare the Senate of the United States adjourned sine die.

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

SUNDAY, March 4, 1917.

(Continuation of proceedings of Saturday, March 3, 1917.)

### AFTER RECESS.

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 10 o'clock a. m.

The SPEAKER. The Chair is not going to recognize anybody who does not agree if anything important comes along they will withdraw the matter, because that is fair to everybody, fair to the House and the Government. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida [Mr. CLARK].

Mr. CLARK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent for the immediate consideration of the bill H. R. 358.

Mr. LEVER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call up the conference report on the Agriculture bill.

The SPEAKER. Call it up.

### EXTENSION OF REMARKS.

Mr. PHELAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to revise and extend my remarks.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection? [After a pause.] The Chair hears none.

Mr. GARDNER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to print as a document the military data which the War College prepared in connection with the universal military training bill.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Massachusetts?

Mr. CALDWELL. Mr. Speaker, I object.

Mr. GARDNER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to extend my remarks in the Record.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman from Massachusetts asks unanimous consent to extend his remarks. Is there objection? [After a pause.] The Chair hears none.

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I would ask the same privilege.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman from Oklahoma asks unanimous consent to extend his remarks.

Mr. BAILEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask the same privilege.

Mr. MANN. Mr. Speaker, I would suggest to the gentleman that he ask general leave to print for 10 calendar days.

Mr. KITCHIN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that gentlemen of the House may have the privilege of extending their remarks in the Record for five days—

Mr. MANN. Make it 10 days.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman from North Carolina asks unanimous consent—

Mr. KITCHIN. Up to the time of the printing of the final edition of the Record.

Mr. MANN. Make it 10 days.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to gentlemen of the House having 10 calendar days in which to extend their remarks? [After a pause.] The Chair hears none.

### MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.

A message from the Senate, by Mr. Carr, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had agreed to the amendment of the House to the bill (S. 5270) for a public building at Paris, Tex.

The message also announced that the Senate had agreed to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendments of the Senate to bills of the following titles:

H. R. 20632. An act making appropriations for the naval service for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1918, and for other purposes; and

H. R. 19359. An act making appropriations for the Department of Agriculture for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1918, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate had agreed to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendments of the House to the bill (S. 8120) granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy and of wars other than the Civil War and to certain widows and dependent relatives of such soldiers and sailors.

The message also announced that the Senate had passed without amendment joint resolutions of the following titles:

H. J. Res. 392. Joint resolution providing that section 5 of an act making appropriations for the service of the Post Office Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1918, shall not be in effect until July 1, 1917; and

H. J. Res. 390. Joint resolution to expedite the delivery of materials, equipment, and munitions, and to secure more expeditious construction of ships.

The message also announced that the Vice President had appointed as members of the joint commission provided for in the Post Office appropriation bill Mr. BANKHEAD, Mr. HARDWICK, and Mr. WEEKS.

### PUBLIC BUILDING, BINGHAMTON, N. Y.

Mr. CLARK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent for the present consideration of the bill H. R. 358.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman from Florida asks unanimous consent for the consideration of the bill indicated. Is there objection?

Mr. LEVER. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, may I ask the gentleman from Florida if this is a contested matter and will take any time?

Mr. CLARK of Florida. Not a particle, I think. If it does, we will have to withdraw it.

Mr. LEVER. Mr. Speaker, I withhold my motion for the present.

The SPEAKER. The Clerk will report the bill.

The Clerk read as follows:

A bill (H. R. 358) providing for the construction of a public building at Binghamton, N. Y.

*Be it enacted, etc.,* That the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to contract, within the limit of cost hereinafter fixed, for the erection and completion on the site now owned by the United States at Binghamton, N. Y., of a suitable and commodious building, including fireproof vaults, heating, hoisting, and ventilating apparatus, and approaches, complete, for the use and accommodation of the post office, courts, and other governmental offices at Binghamton, N. Y., at a cost not to exceed \$500,000.

An open space of such width, including streets and alleys, as the Secretary of the Treasury may determine, shall be maintained about said building for the protection thereof from fire in adjacent buildings.

And the Secretary of the Treasury is further authorized and directed to sell, at such time and upon such terms as he may deem for the best interests of the United States, the present Federal building and the site thereof at Binghamton, N. Y., and convey the last-mentioned property to the purchaser thereof by the usual quitclaim deed, and to deposit the proceeds derived from such sale in the Treasury of the United States as a miscellaneous receipt, such sale to be made after the completion and occupancy of said new building.

The committee amendment was read, as follows:

Page 2, strike out the last paragraph, included in lines 5 to 14.

Mr. CLARK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered in the House as in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman from Florida asks unanimous consent for the present consideration of this bill. Is there objection? [After a pause.] The Chair hears none.

Mr. CLARK of Florida. Now, Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to consider the bill in the House as in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection? [After a pause.] The Chair hears none.

The committee amendment was agreed to.

The bill as amended was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed.

On motion of Mr. CLARK of Florida, a motion to reconsider the vote by which the bill was passed was laid on the table.

### DRAINAGE DISTRICTS.

Mr. SEARS. Mr. Speaker—

The SPEAKER. For what purpose does the gentleman from Florida rise?

Mr. SEARS. Mr. Speaker, I ask to take from the Speaker's table the bill (S. 7710) and ask its present consideration.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman from Florida asks unanimous consent for the present consideration of the bill, which the Clerk will report.

The Clerk read as follows:

An act (S. 7710) to amend the irrigation act of March 3, 1891 (26 Stat., 1095), section 18, and to amend section 2 of the act of May 11, 1898 (30 Stat., 404).

*Be it enacted, etc.,* That section 18 of what is generally known as the irrigation act of March 3, 1891 (26 Stat., 1095), be, and is hereby, amended so as to read as follows:

"Sec. 18. That the right of way through the public lands and reservations of the United States is hereby granted to any canal or ditch company or drainage district formed for the purpose of irrigation or drainage and duly organized under the laws of any State or Territory, and which shall have filed or may hereafter file with the Secretary of the Interior a copy of its articles of incorporation and due proofs of its organization under the same, to the extent of the ground occupied by the water of the reservoir and of the canal and its laterals, and 50 feet on each side of the marginal limits thereof; also the right to take from the public lands adjacent to the line of the canal or ditch, mate-

rial, earth, and stone necessary for the construction of such canal or ditch: *Provided*, That no such right of way shall be so located as to interfere with the proper occupation by the Government of any such reservation, and all maps of location shall be subject to the approval of the department of the Government having jurisdiction of such reservation; and the privilege herein granted shall not be construed to interfere with the control of water for irrigation and other purposes under authority of the respective States or Territories."

SEC. 2. That section 2 of the act of May 11, 1898 (30 Stat., 404), be, and is hereby, amended so as to read as follows:

"SEC. 2. That rights of way for ditches, canals, or reservoirs heretofore or hereafter approved under the provisions of sections 18, 19, 20, and 21 of the act entitled 'An act to repeal timber-culture laws, and for other purposes,' approved March 3, 1891, may be used for purposes of a public nature; and said rights of way may be used for purposes of water transportation, for domestic purposes, or for the development of power, as subsidiary to the main purpose of irrigation or drainage."

The SPEAKER. Is there objection?

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, what is the object of this bill?

Mr. SEARS. Mr. Speaker, the object of this bill is to permit drainage districts. In my State five or six counties form drainage districts and the people vote a tax—

Mr. KEATING. Has the Interior Department been consulted with reference to this matter?

Mr. SEARS. On February 9 I asked for a letter on the subject, and they unanimously indorsed it and I had it published so the Members of the House could become familiar with it.

Mr. MANN. It only permits the construction of drainage districts.

Mr. KEATING. The point I desired to know was whether the Committee on the Public Lands had considered it—the men who are familiar with this question of irrigation.

Mr. SEARS. Mr. FERRIS has.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection? [After a pause.] The Chair hears none.

Mr. SEARS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered in the House as in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection? [After a pause.] The Chair hears none.

The bill was ordered to be read a third time, was read the third time, and passed.

#### PAINTING OF THE LATE GOV. HOWELL COBB.

Mr. CRISP. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent for the present consideration of the resolution which I send to the Clerk's desk.

The SPEAKER. The Clerk will report the resolution.

The Clerk read as follows:

#### House resolution 536.

*Resolved*, That in view of the fact that the State of Georgia has in its capitol a life-size oil painting of the late Gov. Howell Cobb, and that the House of Representatives of the United States, of which he was once Speaker, has recently replaced the portrait of Mr. Cobb, which for years hung in its corridors, by an oil painting, and that said portrait, if disposed of under the provisions of the present existing law by being given to the State of Georgia, would not be hung in the capitol of that State, the Clerk of the House of Representatives of the United States is hereby authorized to give and deliver said portrait of Mr. Cobb to Mrs. Mary Ann Lamar Erwin, of Athens, Ga., the oldest surviving daughter of Mr. Cobb.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection? [After a pause.] The Chair hears none.

The question was taken, and the resolution was agreed to.

#### EDITH BLANKART FUNSTON.

Mr. HELVERING. Mr. Speaker, I desire to call up the bill (S. 8316), the engrossed copy of which we could not find on yesterday.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman from Kansas asks unanimous consent for the present consideration of the bill, which the Clerk will report.

The Clerk read as follows:

An act (S. 8316) granting a pension to Edith Blankart Funston, widow of the late Maj. Gen. Frederick Funston.

*Be it enacted*, etc., That the Secretary of the Interior be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to place on the pension roll, subject to the provisions and limitations of the pension laws, the name of Edith Blankart Funston, widow of Frederick Funston, late a major general in the United States Army, and pay her a pension at the rate of \$100 per month in lieu of that to which she is entitled by law.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to its present consideration? [After a pause.] The Chair hears none.

The bill was ordered to be read a third time, was read the third time, and passed.

On motion of Mr. CAMPBELL, a motion to reconsider the vote by which the bill was passed was laid on the table.

GUY A. RICHARDS, JESSE L. ROBBINS, ISAAC M. C. GRIMES, WILLIAM L. IRVINE, AND DAVID COX.

Mr. TIMBERLAKE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill S. 7766 for present consideration.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman from Colorado asks unanimous consent for the present consideration of a bill which the Clerk will report.

The Clerk read as follows:

An act (S. 7766) for the relief of Guy A. Richards, Jesse L. Robbins, Isaac M. C. Grimes, William L. Irvine, and David Cox.

*Be it enacted*, etc., That Guy A. Richards, of Cambridge, Nebr.; Jesse L. Robbins, of Lamont, Nebr.; Isaac M. C. Grimes, of Lamont, Nebr.; William L. Irvine, of Witherbee, Colo.; and David Cox, of Holyoke, Colo., who made entries under the homestead laws in accordance with the official plat of survey approved November 23, 1881, of public lands shown by said plat to be a part of township 5 north, range 42 west of the sixth principal meridian, and prior to the resurvey of said township evidenced by plat approved January 30, 1915, which resurvey and plat thereof show the nonexistence of the land as entered and described by said parties, be, and they are hereby, authorized to make individual selections, within one year from the date of approval of this act, of unappropriated, surveyed, nonmineral public land, in area approximately equal to that entered by them and shown not to exist.

SEC. 2. That upon filing formal relinquishment of all right and claim asserted under said original homestead entries and making proof satisfactory to the Commissioner of the General Land Office of having so complied with the requirements of the homestead laws in connection with their original entries as would have entitled them to patents therefor, patent shall issue for the land selected: *Provided*, That if any of said parties is unable to show that he had earned title to the land formerly entered he shall perfect said selection as a homestead and receive credit for residence and improvements had in connection with such former entry.

SEC. 3. That the right of selection hereby granted shall not be assignable, but must be exercised by the said parties in person or, in case of death, by or in behalf of the decedent's heirs: *Provided*, That the land selected shall be of similar character to that actually claimed and occupied by the said parties under their original entries, but if selection is made of lands designated as subject to entry under the stock-raising homestead act approved December 29, 1916, double the area embraced by said original entries may be selected: *Provided further*, That the sections hereby authorized may be made subject to existing laws relating to surface entry, with reservation of minerals to the United States.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection?

Mr. JOHNSON of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, I would like to have the bill explained.

Mr. NORTON. Reserving the right to object—

Mr. TIMBERLAKE. Mr. Speaker, it will take but a minute to explain the provisions of this bill. I desire just to explain this in a few words. These gentlemen filed upon lands shown to be vacant by the Government plot in the land office at Sterling, Colo., while I was receiver of that office. Their entries were accepted, and they resided for from seven to eight years on this land. Recently the land has been withdrawn for resurvey, and upon a resurvey they find that they are not occupying the land upon which they have filed and there is no Government land there. They were residing on deeded land, acting in perfect good faith, and the Government is to blame, for the reason that its plots were wrong. Now, these men find themselves without any of the land. This is simply to allow them to go on any Government land and select the same amount of land in character, and upon proof of the residence and cultivation on their former entries receive title by the Government to the land they may under the provisions of this bill select.

Mr. TAYLOR of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I hope there will be no objection on this side of the House or on the other side of the House, for that matter.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection? [After a pause.] The Chair hears none.

The bill was ordered to be read a third time, was read the third time, and passed.

Mr. TIMBERLAKE. Mr. Speaker, I ask that House bill 20037 of similar tenor be laid on the table.

The motion was agreed to.

#### EXTENSION OF REMARKS.

Mr. CANNON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to extend my remarks on the record of the Sixty-fourth Congress.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman from Illinois asks unanimous consent to extend his remarks on the record of the Sixty-fourth Congress. Is there objection? [After a pause.] The Chair hears none.

Mr. FOSS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to extend my remarks in the Record.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection?

There was no objection.

#### DISPOSITION OF USELESS PAPERS IN EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS.

Mr. TALBOTT, from the Joint Select Committee on the Disposition of Useless Papers in the Executive Departments, submitted a report (No. 1637) that the files and papers described in the report of the Secretary of Commerce in House Document No. 1974, and in the report of the Secretary of the Treasury in House Document No. 1949, and in the report of the Secretary of the Treasury in House Document No. 2068, are not needed in



the transaction of the current business of such departments and bureaus and have no permanent value or historical interest.

#### WITHDRAWAL OF PAPERS.

Mr. SMITH of Minnesota, by unanimous consent, was granted leave to withdraw from the files of the House, without leaving copies, the papers in the case of House bill 15928, Sixty-third Congress, second session, no adverse report having been made thereon.

#### LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

Mr. DICKINSON, by unanimous consent, was granted leave of absence for two days, on account of illness in his family.

#### AGRICULTURAL APPROPRIATIONS.

Mr. LEVER. Mr. Speaker, I call up the conference report on the Agricultural appropriation bill.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman from South Carolina calls up the conference report on the Agricultural bill, of which the Clerk will report the title.

The Clerk read as follows:

An act (H. R. 19359) making appropriations for the Department of Agriculture for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1918.

The SPEAKER. The Clerk will read the report.

The Clerk read as follows:

#### CONFERENCE REPORT (NO. 1635).

The committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H. R. 19359) making appropriations for the Department of Agriculture for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1918, and for other purposes, having met, after full and free conference have agreed to recommend and do recommend to their respective Houses as follows:

That the Senate recede from its amendments numbered 10, 14, 21, 24, 26, 29, 30, 44, 45, 48, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 75, 76, 77, 79, 82, 84, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, and 104.

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendments of the Senate numbered 1, 2, 3, 7, 9, 12, 16, 17, 18, 20, 22, 25, 34, 35, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 46, 47, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 72, 78, 80, 81, 83, 87, 89, 92, 94, 95, 96, and 105, and agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 4: That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 4, and agree to the same with an amendment as follows: After the word "establishment" in said amendment insert a comma and the word "equipment," and strike out "\$20,000" and insert in lieu thereof "\$6,500"; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 5: That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 5, and agree to the same with an amendment as follows: On page 9, line 5, strike out "\$1,468,740" and insert in lieu thereof "\$1,455,240"; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 6: That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 6, and agree to the same with an amendment as follows: On page 9, line 5, strike out "\$1,468,740" and insert in lieu thereof "\$1,783,140"; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 8: That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 8, and agree to the same with an amendment as follows: In lieu of "\$269,200" insert "\$277,580"; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 11: That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 11, and agree to the same with an amendment as follows: After the word "equipment" in the Senate amendment strike out the words "and maintenance"; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 13: That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 13, and agree to the same with an amendment as follows: In lieu of "\$2,604,956" insert "\$2,613,236"; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 15: That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 15, and agree to the same with an amendment as follows: In lieu of "\$3,445,326" insert "\$3,555,326"; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 19: That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 19, and agree to the same with an amendment as follows: In lieu of "\$90,010" insert "\$82,510," and in lieu of "\$15,000" insert "\$7,500"; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 23: That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 23, and

agree to the same with an amendment as follows: In lieu of "\$112,200" insert "\$107,200," and in lieu of "\$14,000" insert "\$9,000"; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 27: That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 27, and agree to the same with an amendment as follows: In lieu of "\$2,460,530" insert "\$2,480,530"; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 28: That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 28, and agree to the same with an amendment as follows: In lieu of "\$3,123,630" insert "\$3,143,630"; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 31: That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 31, and agree to the same with an amendment as follows: Before the figures "1,200" in the Senate amendment insert the words "not exceeding"; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 32: That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 32, and agree to the same with an amendment as follows: Transpose the comma and the figures "\$66,100," following the Senate amendment, to a position preceding said amendment; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 33: That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 33, and agree to the same with an amendment as follows: In lieu of "\$1,814,567" insert "\$1,817,567"; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 36: That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 36, and agree to the same with an amendment as follows: In lieu of "\$3,261,475" insert "\$3,264,475"; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 37: That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 37, and agree to the same with an amendment as follows: In lieu of "\$5,709,275" insert "\$5,712,275"; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 73: That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 73, and agree to the same with an amendment as follows: In lieu of "\$2,992,580" insert "\$2,972,580"; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 74: That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 74, and agree to the same with an amendment as follows: In lieu of "\$3,127,660" insert "\$3,107,660"; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 85: That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 85, and agree to the same with an amendment as follows: In lieu of "\$813,395" insert "\$843,395"; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 86: That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 86, and agree to the same with an amendment as follows: In lieu of "\$1,688,575" insert "\$1,718,575"; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 88: That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 88, and agree to the same with an amendment as follows: Strike out the language "same to be additional to the existing 80 acres now used as a plant-introduction field station" and transfer the paragraph as thus amended to page 24, between lines 18 and 19, of the bill; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 90: That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 90, and agree to the same with an amendment as follows: In lieu of "\$139,500" insert "\$104,500"; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 91: That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 91, and agree to the same with an amendment as follows: In lieu of "\$160,000" insert "\$125,000"; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 93: That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 93, and agree to the same with an amendment as follows: In lieu of "\$24,581,213" insert "\$24,679,113"; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 97: That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 97, and agree to the same with an amendment as follows: In lieu of



"\$25,831,213" insert "\$25,929,113"; and strike out the new language added by the Senate amendment; and the Senate agree to the same.

A. F. LEVER,  
GORDON LEE,  
G. N. HAUGEN,

*Managers on the part of the House.*

E. D. SMITH,  
HOKE SMITH,

*Managers on the part of the Senate.*

#### STATEMENT.

The managers on the part of the House at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H. R. 19359) making appropriations for the Department of Agriculture for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1918, and for other purposes, submit the following written statement in explanation of the effect of the action agreed upon by the conference committee and submitted in the accompanying conference report as to each of the amendments of the Senate, namely:

On amendment No. 1: This amendment reduces by \$1,680 the appropriation for expenses of the Weather Bureau outside of the city of Washington. The House recedes.

On amendment No. 2: This amendment reduces by \$1,680 the amount which may be expended by the Weather Bureau for salaries outside of the city of Washington. The House recedes.

On amendment No. 3: This amendment increases by \$15,140 the amount which may be expended by the Weather Bureau for special observations and reports. The House recedes.

On amendment No. 4: This amendment provides \$20,000 for the establishment and maintenance of a Weather Bureau station at Greenville, S. C. The House recedes and agrees with an amendment inserting the word "equipment" after the word "establishment" and reducing the appropriation from \$20,000 to \$6,500.

On amendments Nos. 5 and 6: These amendments represent amended totals.

On amendment No. 7: This amendment authorizes repairs and improvements to buildings at quarantine stations. The House recedes.

On amendment No. 8: This amendment increases by \$18,900 the appropriation for animal husbandry investigations. The House recedes and agrees with an amendment making the amount \$277,580 in order to conform to the action of the managers at the conference on amendment No. 10.

On amendment No. 9: This amendment provides \$15,000 for the purchase of lands in the vicinity of the Morgan Horse Farm near Middlebury, Vt. The House recedes.

On amendment No. 10: This amendment reduces by \$8,380 the amount which may be expended for experiments in poultry feeding and breeding. The Senate recedes.

On amendment No. 11: The first part of this amendment strikes out the language relating to ostrich investigations. The second part adds new language and provides that \$12,280 may be expended for the equipment and maintenance of the United States sheep experiment station in Fremont County, Idaho. The House recedes and agrees with an amendment striking out the words "and maintenance" after the word "equipment."

On amendment No. 12: This amendment strikes out the words "investigation of tuberculosis in cattle." The House recedes.

On amendment No. 13: This amendment represents an amended total.

On amendment No. 14: This amendment reduces by \$101,620 the appropriation for meat inspection. The Senate recedes.

On amendment No. 15: The amendment represents an amended total.

On amendment No. 16: This amendment increases by \$5,000 the appropriation for fruit-disease investigations, with a proviso that \$8,000 shall be available for pecan-disease investigations. The House recedes.

On amendment No. 17: This amendment adds new language and appropriates \$300,000 for the eradication or control of the white-pine blister rust. The House recedes.

On amendment No. 18: This amendment increases by \$2,500 the appropriation for soil-fertility investigations. The House recedes.

On amendment No. 19: This amendment increases by \$15,000 the appropriation for crop acclimatization and fiber-plant investigations, and provides that this sum shall be used for experiments in cottonseed interbreeding. The House recedes and agrees with an amendment reducing the \$15,000 for such purpose to \$7,500 and reducing the total by a like amount.

On amendment No. 20: This amendment increases by \$10,000 the appropriation for cereal investigations. The House recedes.

On amendment No. 21: This amendment increases by \$10,000 the allotment for black-rust and stripe-rust investigations. The Senate recedes.

On amendment No. 22: This amendment inserts after the words "flax straw" the words "and hemp" in the paragraph for paper-plant investigations. The House recedes.

On amendment No. 23: This amendment increases by \$10,000 the appropriation for pomological investigations and provides that \$14,000 shall be available for the investigation and improvement of the pecan. The House recedes and agrees with an amendment reducing the amount for such purposes by \$5,000 and reducing the total by a like amount.

On amendment No. 24: This amendment increases by \$2,500 the appropriation for horticultural investigations. The Senate recedes.

On amendment No. 25: This amendment increases by \$4,000 the appropriation for the testing and distribution of new and rare seeds and for forage-crop investigations. The House recedes.

On amendment No. 26: This amendment adds new language authorizing the expenditure of \$4,000 for forage-crop investigations in cooperation with the Washington State Experiment Station. The Senate recedes.

On amendments Nos. 27 and 28: These amendments represent amended totals.

On amendment No. 29: This amendment reduces by \$1,000 the appropriation for the Coronado National Forest. The Senate recedes.

On amendment No. 30: This amendment reduces by \$2,000 the appropriation for the Lincoln National Forest. The Senate recedes.

On amendment No. 31: This amendment strikes out the language authorizing the expenditure of \$1,200, out of any funds hereafter appropriated for the Nebraska National Forest for any fiscal year to and including the fiscal year ending June 30, 1920, for the purchase of land now under lease and used as a nursery site for the Niobrara division of said forest, and inserts new language appropriating \$1,200 for the purchase of the land during the next fiscal year, increasing the total appropriation for the Nebraska National Forest by that amount and providing that the cost of any building erected at the nurseries on the Nebraska National Forest shall not exceed \$1,000. The House recedes and agrees with an amendment inserting the words "not exceeding" before the figures "\$1,200."

On amendment No. 32: This amendment provides that all moneys received on account of permits for hunting, fishing, or camping on lands acquired under the authority of the Weeks Forestry Act shall be disposed of as is provided by existing law for the disposition of receipts from national forests. The House recedes and agrees with an amendment transposing the position of the proviso so that it appears after the amount of the appropriation.

On amendment No. 33: This amendment represents an amended total.

On amendments Nos. 34 and 35: These amendments insert language authorizing the eradication of poisonous plants in the national forests. The House recedes.

On amendments Nos. 36 and 37: These amendments represent amended totals.

On amendment No. 38: This amendment reduces by \$10,000 the appropriation for poultry and egg investigations. The House recedes.

On amendment No. 39: This amendment reduces by \$4,600 the appropriation for fish investigations. The House recedes.

On amendment No. 40: This amendment increases by \$3,000 the appropriation for table-syrup investigations. The House recedes.

On amendments Nos. 41 and 42: These amendments represent amended totals.

On amendment No. 43: This amendment increases by \$5,000 the appropriation for the investigation of insects affecting deciduous fruits, with a proviso that \$9,600 shall be available for the investigation of insects affecting the pecan. The House recedes.

On amendment No. 44: This amendment makes immediately available \$10,000 of the appropriation for the investigation of insects affecting southern field crops. The Senate recedes.

On amendment No. 45: This amendment provides that \$20,000 of the appropriation for the investigation of insects affecting truck crops and stored products may be used for the investigation of diseases of beans and peas. The Senate recedes.

On amendments Nos. 46 and 47: These amendments represent amended totals.

On amendment No. 48: This amendment restricts the experiments and demonstrations in destroying predatory animals and animals injurious to agriculture to the lands of the United States. The Senate recedes.

On amendment No. 49: This amendment decreases by \$2,440 the appropriation for general administrative expenses of the Bureau of Biological Survey. The House recedes.

On amendments Nos. 50 and 51: These amendments represent amended totals.

On amendment No. 52: This amendment strikes out the language limiting the loaning, renting, or selling of films to educational institutions or associations for agricultural education not organized for profit and substitutes a proviso that such institutions or associations shall have preference. The House recedes.

On amendment No. 53: This amendment reduces by two the number of clerks, class 3, in the Bureau of Crop Estimates. The House recedes.

On amendment No. 54: This amendment reduces by one the number of clerks at \$900 each in the Bureau of Crop Estimates. The House recedes.

On amendment No. 55: This amendment reduces by three the number of messengers or laborers at \$720 each in the Bureau of Crop Estimates. The House recedes.

On amendment No. 56: This amendment represents an amended total.

On amendment No. 57: This amendment provides that hereafter the Monthly Crop Report shall be printed and distributed on or before the 12th day of each month. The House recedes.

On amendment No. 58: This amendment reduces by \$4,078 the appropriation for the field investigations of the Bureau of Crop Estimates. The House recedes.

On amendments Nos. 59 and 60: These amendments represent amended totals.

On amendment No. 61: This amendment reduces by one the number of clerks at \$900 in the library. The House recedes.

On amendment No. 62: This amendment represents an amended total.

On amendment No. 63: This amendment reduces by \$4,000 the appropriation for the general expenses of the library. The House recedes.

On amendment No. 64: This amendment represents an amended total.

On amendment No. 65: This amendment increases by \$15,000 the appropriation for miscellaneous expenses. The House recedes.

On amendment No. 66: This amendment provides for the appointment of a joint committee to investigate the advisability of the erection of additional buildings for the Department of Agriculture. The House recedes.

On amendment No. 67: This amendment strikes out the language authorizing the Secretary of Agriculture to prescribe the form of the annual financial statement required under the acts cited in the paragraph. The Senate recedes.

On amendment No. 68: This amendment increases by \$20,000 the appropriation for the insular experiment stations. The Senate recedes.

On amendment No. 69: This amendment increases by \$10,000 the allotment for the Hawaii Experiment Station. The Senate recedes.

On amendment No. 70: This amendment increases by \$10,000 the allotment for the Porto Rico Experiment Station, with a proviso that \$10,000 may be expended for the maintenance of an experimental substation. The Senate recedes.

On amendment No. 71: This amendment increases by \$5,000 the amount which may be expended for agricultural extension work in Hawaii. The Senate recedes.

On amendment No. 72: This amendment reduces by \$4,000 the appropriation for home economics investigations. The House recedes.

On amendments Nos. 73 and 74: These amendments represent amended totals.

On amendment No. 75: This amendment reduces by \$3,400 the appropriation for general administrative expenses of the Office of Public Roads and Rural Engineering. The Senate recedes.

On amendments Nos. 76 and 77: These amendments represent amended totals.

On amendment No. 78: This amendment makes immediately available \$40,000 of the appropriation for the Market News Service. The House recedes.

On amendment No. 79: This amendment strikes out the paragraph providing \$50,000 for the investigation of the production and marketing of agricultural food products, and inserts a new paragraph appropriating \$25,000 to enable the Secretary of

Agriculture to certify to shippers the condition of fruits and vegetables at points of destination. The Senate recedes.

On amendment No. 80: This amendment corrects a typographical error. The House recedes.

On amendment No. 81: This amendment reduces by \$5,000 the appropriation for cotton standardization. The House recedes.

On amendment No. 82: This amendment authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to use \$25,000 of the appropriation for grain standardization for the installation of an experimental flour mill and chemical and baking laboratories in Washington to aid in establishing standards for wheat and other grains. The Senate recedes.

On amendment No. 83: This amendment provides \$4,000 for the administration of the standard basket and container act. The House recedes.

On amendment No. 84: This amendment reduces by \$5,000 the appropriation for general administrative expenses of the Bureau of Markets. The Senate recedes.

On amendments Nos. 85 and 86: These amendments represent amended totals.

On amendment No. 87: This amendment gives the Secretary of Agriculture power to administer oaths, examine witnesses, and call for the production of books and papers. The House recedes.

On amendment No. 88: This amendment adds new language and appropriates \$35,000 for the purchase, preparation, and irrigation of 150 acres of land at Chico, Cal., as an addition to the existing plant-introduction field station. The House recedes and agrees with an amendment striking out the reference to the existing field station.

On amendment No. 89: This amendment adds new language and appropriates \$50,000 to meet the emergency caused by the existence of the pink boll worm of cotton in the Laguna district of Mexico. The House recedes.

On amendments Nos. 90 and 91: These amendments represent amended totals.

On amendment No. 92: This amendment authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a quarantine without necessary regard to the determination of the fact of the existence of a dangerous plant disease or insect infection, in the State, Territory, or District quarantined. The other changes consist in the incorporation, for purposes of effective administration, of desirable legislation for enforcing effectively the gypsy moth and brown-tail moth quarantine. The House recedes.

On amendment No. 93: This amendment represents an amended total.

On amendment No. 94: This amendment increases by \$10,000 the appropriation for demonstrations on reclamation projects. The House recedes.

On amendment No. 95: This amendment increases by \$16,396 the appropriation for experiments in dairying and live-stock production in the western United States. The House recedes.

On amendment No. 96: This amendment reduces by \$250,000 the appropriation for the eradication of foot-and-mouth and other contagious diseases of animals. The House recedes.

On amendment No. 98: This amendment amends the total carried by the bill for the Department of Agriculture and adds new language imposing certain restrictions upon the expenditure in connection or in cooperation with certain corporations and individuals of the funds appropriated to the department. The House recedes and agrees with an amendment making the amount of the total \$25,929,113 instead of \$25,831,213 and striking out the new language.

On amendments Nos. 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, and 104: The effect of these amendments is to lower the limit of salary to which the percentage increases shall apply from \$1,800 to \$1,000, and to provide a 15 per cent increase in salary for employees receiving \$480 or less and a 10 per cent increase for employees receiving more than \$480 and not exceeding \$1,000. The Senate recedes.

On amendment No. 105: This amendment authorizes the President to extend invitations to other nations to appoint delegates to the International Farm Congress to be held at Peoria, Ill. The House recedes.

A. F. LEVER,  
GORDON LEE,  
G. N. HAUGEN,

*Managers on the part of the House.*

The SPEAKER. The question is on agreeing to the conference report.

Mr. LEVER. Does the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. MANN] desire five minutes? If so, I will yield it to him.



ASHER HINDS.

Mr. MANN. Mr. Speaker, we are about to reach the end of this term of Congress. There are a good many valuable men whose terms in Congress will cease, or at least temporarily cease, with the end of this term. There are very strong characters on both sides of the House who are not coming back to the next Congress. There is one whom I think ought not to be permitted to go out without receiving at least some passing reference. There are many who are entitled to have fine things said about them because they deserve them.

There is one Member of the House who came to Congress a good many years ago in the capacity of a clerk, or secretary, who became the parliamentarian of the House, and served for many years as the clerk to the Speaker at the Speaker's table, and who established a reputation not only for his knowledge of parliamentary law and practice and the practice of the House, but who established his reputation with all Members of Congress for his absolute fidelity to truth and his perfect fairness. [Applause.]

I often had occasion to preside over the deliberations of the House when it was in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union and came in close personal contact with Mr. HINDS, the then parliamentarian. He never had any prejudices. Every proposition that was presented to the House for construction was looked at by him purely from the standpoint of right and correctness. He would discuss with the presiding officer parliamentary propositions when presenting both sides of the proposition and give his opinion when asked for. He is one of those rare characters who can sit at the side of the Speaker and carry apparently three different lines of thought in his head at the same time. He worked on his parliamentary precedents at the little desk at the right of the Speaker, and at the same time kept in his head the procedure of the House and also kept in his head the parliamentary propositions that came before the House. Apparently he could keep going in his brain questions relating to the history many years back of procedure and parliamentary practice and law in the House and, at a second's warning, could know who was entitled to the floor in the House, what were the rights of Members for recognition in the House, and at the same time carry in his head difficult parliamentary propositions. It was a wonderful gift of mind, perhaps too great a gift for his own physical good.

He was elected a Member of the House, coming into the House with this knowledge, and it was assumed by the House that he would be the lawgiver on parliamentary law. Personally I advised him when he came as a Member of the House to endeavor to forget, so far as he could, parliamentary law, because I thought he was entitled, with his great mind, to give his attention to the great questions of statesmanship and not permit himself to be used merely as an authority on parliamentary procedure.

It is unfortunate for us and for the country that because of his ill health he has been compelled to retire to private life. But he goes to private life with the greatest respect of all men who have known him or who have known of him, and with the love and affection of every Member of this House.

Mr. LEVER. Mr. Speaker, I yield five minutes to the gentleman from Missouri [Mr. CLARK].

Mr. BARNHART assumed the Chair as Speaker pro tempore.

Mr. CLARK of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I endorse everything that Brother MANN has said about Mr. HINDS. When I was first elected Speaker, if Mr. HINDS had not been elected to Congress, notwithstanding the fact that he is a Republican, I would have unhesitatingly made him parliamentary clerk [applause], because my judgment is that he knows more about parliamentary law than any other man that ever lived. [Applause.]

I had this curious experience: Of course I had been here 16 years, and in the State legislature 2 years, and a man of ordinary sense can not serve in a legislative body that long without learning something about parliamentary law. But I was not an expert in it, and I wanted to make a success of my Speakership; and Mr. HINDS having been elected, I started in to find somebody who had had experience with these rules, and there were only two in the United States. One of them was incapacitated by being crippled and the other was Mr. CRISP, of Georgia. [Applause.]

I had not seen Mr. CRISP since he was comparatively a boy. He was his father's parliamentary clerk, very young, and in the lapse of 20 years a man's habits may change very much. So I went to Judge HUGHES, of Georgia, and asked him what kind of a man CHARLIE CRISP had grown into—whether he had developed any ability and whether he was sober. [Laughter.] Also, whether he was a good lawyer. The judge gave him a very high recommendation, which he deserved. [Applause.]

Mr. DAVIS of Texas. Amen! [Laughter.]

Mr. CLARK of Missouri. I suppose Mr. CRISP was very much surprised when he received a letter from me stating that I wanted to appoint him parliamentary clerk. That is one case where the office sought the man. [Applause.] He did so well here that he got elected to Congress himself, and I am glad of it. [Applause.]

I remember how Speaker Henderson and Speaker Reed and Uncle JOE depended upon ASHER HINDS. I have seen Mr. Speaker CANNON and Mr. Speaker Henderson stand up there and argue with him five minutes at a clip before they would render an opinion. [Laughter.] One day Mr. Speaker CANNON was rendering an elaborate opinion, and Mr. JOHN SHARP WILLIAMS, of Mississippi, kept interjecting queries and remarks into it. Mr. Speaker CANNON laid down one proposition and Mr. WILLIAMS dissented from it, and they got into a wrangle, and at last Uncle JOE settled it by saying, "ASHER says—"; and what ASHER said went. [Applause.]

I am exceedingly sorry that he is going out of the House. [Applause.]

Mr. LEVER. Mr. Speaker, I yield five minutes to the gentleman from Minnesota [Mr. STEENERSON].

The SPEAKER. The gentleman from Minnesota is recognized for five minutes.

## THE BINDER-TWINE TRUST.

Mr. STEENERSON. Mr. Speaker, in the discussion of the Agricultural appropriation bill it is proper to call attention to the Comision Reguladora del Mercado de Henequen, of Yucatan, Mexico, the Twine Trust. It is well known that the Government of Yucatan a few years ago appointed a commission for the disposition of sisal fiber, out of which binding twine is made. At that time the people of the United States were getting fiber at 6½ cents a pound f. o. b. New York. Now it is 16½ cents a pound, adding something like thirty-seven and a half million dollars to the annual expenses of the farmers of the United States.

This monopoly was investigated by a Senate committee last year, and they found not only that it was a monopoly, but a self-confessed monopoly, and recommended that the State Department and the Attorney General take action.

The Secretary of Commerce wrote me a letter recently, in which he said in substance that he was informed that under the auspices of the Reguladora Mr. Norman Lind went to Manila to inquire into the possibility of making arrangements in the Philippines of such a character as would support the sisal monopoly in the markets of the United States; that Lind had now returned, but intended to go back again to the Philippines in order to carry out, if possible, this proposed arrangement.

The Reguladora as first organized was composed of five persons appointed by the governor and had for its purpose the purchase and sale of sisal, or henequen, and to maintain the price thereof to the planters. They entered into competition with private buyers, but were not able to monopolize the market or to materially affect the price. In 1915, however, a revolution occurred, and Gen. Alvarado was appointed governor by Carranza, and with a military force of 8,000 men took possession of the Government and became dictator with absolute powers. He reorganized the Comision Reguladora, giving it a monopoly over the purchase and export of sisal hemp and compelling all producers to turn over to them their product at 4 cents a pound, American gold; and should any surplus remain after paying taxes and expenses of operation, it should be turned over to the planters. The establishment of this monopoly drove out all other purchasers. It was necessary, however, in order to advance the required amount of money to the planters, to have a large credit, and arrangements were then made with Sol Wexler and Lynn H. Dinkins, bankers of New Orleans and New York, to organize the Pan American Commission Corporation under the laws of New York and to furnish the Reguladora with \$10,000,000 as a working capital. The effect of this was that whereas the manufacturers of binder twine had obtained the raw material at prices of from 3 to 5½ cents a pound, it was now raised, first, to 7½ cents per pound, and then the latter part of 1916 to 10 cents per pound. This created a great apprehension among the manufacturers and farmers in the United States. Over a million and a quarter bales of sisal hemp were produced in Yucatan in 1916, and this is about 90 per cent of the world's supply of this product. The only competitor is abaca, or manila hemp, from the Philippine Islands. The twine from manila hemp goes about 25 per cent in length to the pound more than does sisal, and consequently is more valuable. The amount of manila hemp used for binder twine is very nearly equal to that of sisal, but manila hemp is more valuable for ordinary cordage and rope. The cost of manufacturing hemp into binder twine



runs from one-fourth to 1 cent a pound. The average cost of material to the manufacturer for the last 15 years was 5½ cents per pound, and the twine sold at from 6 to 7 cents per pound. The first advance was in May, 1916, to 7½ cents, then to 10½ cents a pound in July following, and in the fall of 1916 it went to 14½ cents a pound f. o. b. New York. According to the last quotations, it was 16½ cents a pound, an increase of more than 300 per cent since the creation of the monopoly.

In January, 1916, the Senate adopted a resolution authorizing the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry to investigate the subject and to find out to what extent prices were controlled by combinations with monopolistic powers. The investigation continued until last summer, but no report was made until in January, 1917, when a report was filed to the effect that there was a combination to control the output of sisal which constituted a monopoly; that without the aid of the American bankers and the Pan American Commission Corporation and the \$10,000,000 furnished by them the Comision Reguladora would not have been able to perfect and carry out its monopolistic combination to control the sisal market and fix the price regardless of the law of supply and demand and entirely at its own option. The report urged the Department of Justice to make an investigation and take suitable action to check the power of this monopoly, and directed that a copy of the hearings, together with the report, be filed with the Attorney General. The committee also referred its report to the State Department with suggestion that the matter be taken up through diplomatic channels to see if some measure of relief could be obtained. Shortly thereafter I introduced three resolutions, as follows, to wit:

1. Resolution of inquiry to the Department of Justice as to what, if any, steps had been taken against these combinations (H. Res. 477, 64th Cong., 2d sess.).

2. Resolution of inquiry to the State Department as to what, if any, steps had been taken to obtain relief from the extortions practiced by these combinations (H. Res. 478, 64th Cong. 2d sess.).

3. Resolution directed to the War Department, inquiring for the correspondence between the Bureau of Insular Affairs of that Department with the Governor of the Philippine Islands with relation to an alleged attempt by the Reguladora to organize a similar combination in the Philippines of the producers of manila hemp (H. Res. 483, 64th Cong., 2d sess.).

The answers of these departments are as follows, to wit:

Hon. E. Y. WEBB,

*Chairman Committee on the Judiciary,  
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.*

MY DEAR MR. WEBB: The department has received your letter of the 31st ultimo transmitting a copy of House resolution 477, making inquiry as to whether or not any action has been taken against the Comision Reguladora del Mercado de Henequen and the Pan American Commission Corporation, an alleged combination to monopolize the sale and increase the price of sisal in the United States.

A suit against the Pan American Commission Corporation, the Comision Reguladora del Mercado de Henequen, and others for alleged violations of the Federal antitrust laws was instituted in the United States District Court at New York City on January 30, 1917. There are inclosed herewith two copies of the Government's petition.

Action against this combination was withheld until the report of the Senate committee, referred to in the resolution, at the request of the committee itself.

Yours very truly,

T. W. GREGORY, *Attorney General.*

The War Department furnished copies of two communications, as follows:

[Cablegram.]

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 16, 1916.

HARRISON, Manila:

Reported here that Lind, employee of the Mexican Comision Reguladora, now in Manila in effort to organize combine abaca interests. Please report facts, and if any effort being made to corner manila hemp. Caution should be exercised in dealings with Comision Reguladora. Outlook here indicates desirability of pushing hemp and maguey cultivation. Rush answer by cable.

McINTYRE.

[Cablegram.]

MANILA, P. I., December 19, 1916.

SECRETARY OF WAR, Washington:

Referring to telegram from your office of 16th instant, Lind informed me that he is looking into the fiber situation here. Be-

yond that I know nothing of his actions in connection with abaca, and no mention was made by him of the Comision Reguladora.

HARRISON.

The State Department communicated the following to Chairman Flood, of the Foreign Relations Committee of the House, to wit:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
Washington, February 16, 1917.

The Honorable HENRY D. FLOOD,

*Chairman Committee on Foreign Affairs,*

*House of Representatives.*

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of February 12, 1917, with which you inclosed a copy of House Resolution No. 478, dated January 30, 1917, requesting me to inform the House whether any action has been taken by the Department of State, either as recommended in Senate Report No. 919, Sixty-fourth Congress, second session, or otherwise, to secure relief from the extortions practiced by the Comision Reguladora del Mercado de Henequen and the Pan American Commission Corporation, which control the supply of sisal hemp suitable for the manufacture of binder twine in the United States.

You ask me to furnish you with an expression of my views in the matter and with any information in regard thereto.

In reply I have the honor to inform you that the Department of State has not taken any diplomatic action with the de facto Government of Mexico on the subject of the Binder Twine Trust in line with the recommendation contained in the Senate report mentioned, or otherwise, on account of the fact that the political situation in Mexico has not for some time appeared to be such as to make it advisable to go into this matter with the de facto Government. However, as the Attorney General may have taken some action against the Pan American Commission Corporation, I suggest that you might consider it advisable to obtain an expression of opinion on the subject from him.

I have the honor to be, sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) ROBERT LANSING.

Secretary of Commerce Redfield also sent a letter, which is as follows, to wit:

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE,  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,  
Washington, February 1, 1917.

Hon. HALVOR STEENERSON,

*House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.*

MY DEAR CONGRESSMAN: My attention has been repeatedly called by merchants and manufacturers connected with the twine and cordage industries to the extraordinary advance in price of sisal imported from Yucatan. I have watched with great interest the increase in price, which has now gone so far as to make the present figure of 16½ cents nearly or quite three times the price that existed before the so-called Comision Reguladora took charge of the matter. I have been quite unable to learn from any source of any justification for such an increase in figure, and have regarded, and do still regard, the advance in price as an injurious act of monopoly hurtfully exercised on our soil to the material damage of our farmers and consumers. I earnestly hope that the pending litigation begun by the Government may result in restoring more normal conditions.

I am informed that, under the auspices of the Comision Reguladora, Mr. Norman Lind went to Manila to inquire into the possibility of making arrangements in the Philippine Islands of such a character as would support the sisal monopoly in the markets of the United States. I am informed that Mr. Lind has returned to this country with the intention of going back again to the Philippines, in order to carry out, if possible, this proposed arrangement. It is my understanding that thus an effort is to be made to back up one monopoly by the more or less complete establishment of another, and that in both of these the interests of the American farmer and consumer are the last things to be considered.

I should be very glad for anything that could be done, by legislation or otherwise, which would defeat purposes of this kind.

I beg to remain,

Yours very truly,

(Signed)

WILLIAM C. REDFIELD,  
*Secretary.*

This is the situation up to date. It will be observed that the Department of Justice has begun a suit in equity against the Reguladora and its officers, but no criminal prosecution.

The Reguladora recently published in the daily newspapers a page advertisement, in which they defended their action in raising the price, on the ground that their prices were regulated by the prices of their only competitor, manila hemp.



It will also be noted that the Bureau of Insular Affairs suspected that the Reguladora was sending an emissary to effect a combination of producers of manila hemp in the Philippine Islands to establish a complete monopoly of both sisal and manila hemp producers. The Reguladora sent several newspaper clippings to me defending their action, and I wrote them inquiring about the price and about the employment of Mr. Norman Lind. Their answer is as follows, to wit:

[Comision Reguladora del Mercado de Henequen. Main office at Merida, Yucatan, Mexico. New York office, 120 Broadway. Menalio Marin, agent.]

JANUARY 27, 1917.

HON. HALVOR STEENERSON, M. C.,  
Washington, D. C.

DEAR SIR: We beg to acknowledge receipt of your esteemed favor of January 24. We were pleased to note that you welcomed the opportunity of reading a statement from us in reply to some of the charges that have been made against the Comision Reguladora del Mercado de Henequen. In reply to your queries, we beg to advise you that we are now selling sisal to the American manufacturers at 16½ cents f. o. b. Gulf ports and 16½ cents f. o. b. Atlantic ports.

Respecting Mr. Norman Lind, he has been employed in the statistical department of the Comision Reguladora since March 1, 1916. Last year he visited American manufacturers of twines and rope for the purpose of ascertaining their normal and probable future requirements of sisal fiber and to hear any complaints they might have concerning the quality of sisal fiber deliveries, the method of handling, etc., and to receive suggestions for any improvements that the manufacturers might deem advantageous for them. Recently Mr. Lind was sent to the Philippines to gather statistical data respecting manila hemp and other fibers produced in the islands and to study methods of cleaning, handling, and marketing the Philippine fibers. \* \* \*

Very respectfully, yours,

COMISION REGULADORA DEL  
MERCADO DE HENEQUEN,  
(Signed) MENALIO MARIN, Agent.

In their published advertisements the Reguladora maintains that their prices are determined by the price of manila hemp. It is also to be noted that they sent their agent to "gather statistical data respecting manila hemp and other fibers produced in the Philippine Islands and to study methods of cleaning, handling, and marketing the Philippine fibers." This points to the fact that they were at that time contemplating effecting world-wide combination or monopoly of the fiber markets. Probably the suit begun the other day by the Department of Justice against the Comision Reguladora del Mercado de Henequen, Pan American Commission Corporation, Sol Wexler, Lynn H. Dinkins, Juan Martinez, Menalio Marin, and Nicolas Ferraez will have a tendency to check this attempt at an extension of the monopoly. It is to be regretted, however, that the Department of Justice should not also have resorted to criminal proceedings.

The Senate committee found—

"Beyond question this association is a monopoly formed for the purpose of controlling the sisal market, which it does most effectively."

Also—

"The official representatives of the Comision Reguladora admitted before your committee that their organization was indeed a complete and effective monopoly, and furthermore that the contract entered into between the Comision Reguladora and the Pan American Commission Corporation was an essential factor in making the monopoly complete and effective."

Certainly a clearer case of criminal violation of the antitrust laws would be hard to find. It is true that the Reguladora had put forth the claim that they are a farmers' cooperative organization, and that they are exempt under the recent amendments of the antitrust laws. They also, in a recent advertisement, called attention to the Webb bill, which authorizes the combination of American manufacturers who deal in foreign countries. This bill they say has been recommended by the President and passed by the House of Representatives by a majority of 8 to 1, and legalizes combines in foreign countries, and that this is intended especially for the Latin-American countries. How, then, they ask, can this country consistently object to an association of farmers solely for mutual help for marketing their products, especially when the association is under regulation by the Government? I opposed the Webb bill and hope that it will never become a law; but regardless of that and the principles embodied therein, the answer to this contention is that the Reguladora is not an organization of farmers, but an agency of a military and despotic Government imposed upon the people of Yucatan, which denies not only to its own

citizens but to all others the right to purchase or to export henequen fiber, the staple commodity of that country. According to reliable reports, this Government, although it pretends to act for the farmers, and although it has extracted many millions of dollars from the people of the United States in exorbitant fiber prices, has never divided a single dollar among the actual producers of henequen. It was testified to by men who had been in the business for 30 years that the cost of producing henequen fiber was 3 cents a pound. The agents of the Reguladora claimed that the combination was paying a higher price for their peon labor, but it turned out upon cross-examination that they were being paid in paper money that was almost valueless, and that when it was reduced to gold they were paid about the same now as formerly.

A few years ago a somewhat similar or analogous scheme originated in one of the provinces of Brazil, in South America, which produced most of the coffee. It was called the valorization scheme, and the Government advanced to the planters a certain amount on their coffee and then shipped and stored it in New York and in European ports and borrowed money on it there in order to keep it off the market until the price they demanded was paid. This worked for a while and the American people were compelled to pay several cents a pound more for their coffee. Attorney General Wickersham brought suit against Hermann Sietcken and others in 1910, and I have been informed that the State Department also called the attention of the Brazilian Government to the fact that we were their best customers for coffee and admitted it free of duty. It ended soon after. The coffee stored was sold and the valorization scheme was abandoned, and the price of coffee fell to normal. It seems to me that this administration is neglecting the interests of the American farmers in not making an effort in the same direction in this instance. The Reguladora is, as has been proven, a mendacious and insolent monopoly. Sol Wexler at the hearing testified that conditions as to prices would be normal as soon as all opposition to the Reguladora ceased. He said, "When those people let up in the fight, which they will do when they are thoroughly licked, things will be normal."

I have received petitions from hundreds of farmers and protests from the National Grange, and something effective ought certainly to be done to crush this monopoly. Talk about the high cost of living! The increase of 10 cents per pound in the price of binder twine means 20 cents an acre for all the grain raised, which means 1½ cents per bushel of wheat, or 7½ cents for every barrel of flour consumed in the United States. I understand the Reguladora is going to invoke the antitrust laws that exempt farmers' organizations without capital from its operations. This is what they claimed in their advertisements, but this plea will not be sustained. It is a sham. It is as fraudulent as the claim they made a year ago when they testified before the Senate committee to explain the abnormal rise in prices, that there was a shortage in the supply of fiber. They had refused to sell to American manufacturers on the pretext that the supply was below normal. With the consent of the committee they then agreed to have the Federal Trade Commission distribute to the manufacturers such supply as they had in proportion to the capacity of each.

The Trade Commission did so, and found and reported that they had received orders from the manufacturers for 107,950 bales, leaving a surplus of 17,050 bales on hand, showing that there was an actual surplus instead of a shortage. This proved that the Reguladora had been practicing deception, not only on the committee but on the manufacturers. Circumstantial evidence also pointed to the fact that they had for a long time been studying the supply and demand of fiber, not only in this country but in other countries as well, and they had sent Mr. Norman Lind to the Philippines for that purpose. There could be no object in all this except to form a world-wide combination to control the prices of fiber. This is the most dangerous attempt at monopoly and to increase the cost of living that has ever been conceived.

The Senate committee found that the price of hemp had been increased while the hearings were being held from 7½ cents per pound to 14½ cents per pound, an annual increase to the American people of more than \$26,000,000. The annual production of sisal hemp is about 1,000,000 bales, and practically all this is consumed in the United States. A bale weighs 375 pounds. This makes a total of 375,000,000 pounds. An increase of 2 cents a pound; that is, the rise in price since the committee report was filed, from 14½ to 16½ cents per pound, amounting to \$7,500,000, added to the \$26,000,000 makes a total of \$34,500,000 we will contribute to this monopoly this year. This trust is enabled to rob the American people of this sum annually because it is financed by American bankers with the express approval of Carranza and



apparently the tacit approval of our own State Department. [Applause.]

The Reguladora should not escape punishment because of its claim to be a government agency. That would be a good plea in Yucatan but not here. When a government engages in private business, especially outside of its own domain, it is governed by the law applicable to individuals. All these agents of the Reguladora and the bankers are in the United States, and subject to our penal laws for acts done here. We demand they be prosecuted, criminally as well as civilly. This robbery must be stopped.

[From the Tribune, Sanford, Me., Nov. 3, 1916.]

The latest product of Democratic legislation and policy, the Binder Twine Trust—the Comision del Mercado de Henequen Reguladora, of Yucatan—controls absolutely the world's sisal supply, out of which binder twine is made. This trust was organized by the military governor of Yucatan and was approved by Carranza. It was financed in the United States with approval of the State Department. Norman Lind, whose father, John Lind, was sent as President Wilson's "personal representative" to Mexico, is its American representative. This trust has already doubled the price of binder twine. The money, wrung from American farmers, will not go to the peons of Yucatan in increased wages but to Carranza. It will help him buy more arms and ammunition with which to murder Americans.

[From the Washington Post, Jan. 29, 1917.]

CABINET TO DISCUSS SISAL—NEW RAISE IN PRICE LIKELY TO BRING IMMEDIATE FEDERAL ACTION.

Announcement of another rise in the price of Yucatan sisal, the base for binder twine, it was learned yesterday, will hasten action by Government agencies investigating operations of the commission reguladora, the Yucatan state monopoly which markets sisal in the United States. The situation will be put before to-day's cabinet meeting for discussion of measures contemplated for relief of American users.

New York representatives of the commission have just put sisal up 2 cents, which makes the price now charged American binder-twine manufacturers 16 cents a pound. When the commission took control of the Yucatan output, less than two years ago, users in this country were paying less than 5 cents.

PRICE OF SISAL AGAIN UP—MEXICANS ASK 16½ CENTS FOR FIBER, AGAINST 5½ CENTS IN 1915.

NEW YORK, January 28.

Another boost—this time of full 2 cents a pound—was announced yesterday by the Mexican commission which controls the supply of sisal, from which practically all of the binder twine made in the United States is manufactured. The new quotation is 16½ cents a pound for February-March delivery, and it compares with the last quotation of 14½ cents, a quotation in November of 10½ cents and the low price in September, 1915, of 5½ cents.

The increase has tended to stiffen the Manila market, too. Fair current is quoted at 16 cents, while 25 per cent over fair current is quoted at 19 cents.

A Senate agriculture committee which investigated workings of the commission for the sale of sisal reported recently that it was unable to do anything to stop the advances, but requested the Department of Justice to begin such action as is deemed necessary and the State Department to ascertain whether relief can not be obtained through diplomatic channels. The committee also requested the Department of Agriculture to begin laboratory experiments to find a suitable and economic substitute for sisal. Practically the entire world's supply is grown in the State of Yucatan, in southern Mexico.

[From the Washington Post, Jan. 31, 1917.]

SUES SISAL INTERESTS—GOVERNMENT CHARGES CONSPIRACY UNDER ANTITRUST LAWS—GREGORY ISSUES STATEMENT—ASSERTS REQUEST FOR INJUNCTIONS AGAINST PAN AMERICAN COMMISSION AND OTHERS IS OF VITAL IMPORTANCE TO FARMERS—POINTS TO RISE IN PRICES AS RESULT OF ALLEGED COMBINE.

NEW YORK, January 30.

The Government to-day filed a suit in the Federal court here against the Pan American Commission Corporation, Sol Wexler, and others, charging conspiracy under the antitrust laws to restrain interstate and foreign trade in sisal and to increase the market price of sisal throughout the United States.

Injunctions were asked against the corporation, the Comision Reguladora, the Yucatan combination of sisal producers which received its financial assistance, and against several individuals connected with them, to prevent their further operation in interstate or foreign commerce. The other individual defendants named are Lynn H. Dinkins, Juan Martinez, Menallo Marin, and Nicholas Ferraz.

FORMED AS MONOPOLY, HE SAYS.

"The combination attacked was formed late in 1915 to monopolize the field and increase the price of sisal in the United States," reads a statement issued by Attorney General Gregory in filing the suit.

"Sisal is produced as an article of commerce only in Yucatan and is the only fiber available for the manufacture of binder twine, of which from 250,000,000 to 300,000,000 pounds is required annually for harvesting the grain crops of the United States.

"The parties to the combination are American bankers, the Pan American Commission Corporation, organized and controlled by them, and the Comision Reguladora, which has an office in New York and imports and sells sisal in the United States.

CONTINUOUS CREDIT OF \$10,000,000.

"To enable the commission to purchase the entire output of Mexico and import and sell it at the prices and on the terms fixed by the combination, the bankers through their corporations are supplying to the commission in the United States a continuous credit of \$10,000,000 and otherwise assisting the commission in the United States. For this service the corporation receives a minimum compensation of \$450,000 a year in addition to the regular rates of interest on loans made to the commission.

"At the time the combination was effected the price of sisal at New York was 5½ cents a pound and for five years before had averaged about 5½ cents. As a result of the combination the price has been

advanced until it is now 16½ cents. This price, if maintained, means probably an increase to our farmers of more than \$25,000,000 in binder twine for 1917 over the cost in 1915."

CONFERENCE REPORT (NO. 1635).

Mr. NORTON. Will the gentleman yield for a moment?

Mr. STEENERSON. Yes; for just one question.

The SPEAKER. The time of the gentleman has expired.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. "Vote!" "Vote!"

Mr. STEENERSON. Just one moment—

Mr. LEVER. I move the previous question.

Mr. NORTON. Just one moment. I want to ask the gentleman a question.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman from South Carolina moves the previous question.

Mr. NORTON. I just want a minute.

The SPEAKER. The question is on ordering the previous question.

The previous question was ordered.

The SPEAKER. The question is on agreeing to the conference report.

The question being taken, the Speaker announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I ask for a division.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman from North Dakota demands a division. Those in favor of agreeing to the conference report will rise and stand until they are counted. [After counting.] Two hundred and eighty-six Members voting in the affirmative. Those opposed to agreeing to the conference report will rise and stand until counted. [After a pause.] Not a soul has risen against it. [Applause.]

Accordingly the conference report was agreed to.

COMMITTEE TO NOTIFY THE PRESIDENT.

Mr. KITCHIN. Mr. Speaker, I send to the Clerk's desk a resolution which I ask the Clerk to report, and I ask its immediate consideration.

The SPEAKER. The Clerk will report it.

The Clerk read as follows:

House resolution 555.

Resolved, That a committee of three Members be appointed by the Speaker to join a similar committee to be appointed by the Senate, to wait on the President of the United States and inform him that the two Houses are ready to adjourn unless the President has some communication to make to them.

The resolution was agreed to; and the Speaker appointed Mr. KITCHIN, Mr. LLOYD, and Mr. MANN as the committee on the part of the House.

DUTIES ON FLAX-PREPARATORY MACHINES.

Mr. FORDNEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent for the present consideration of the bill (S. 4384) providing for the refund of duties collected on flax-preparatory machines, parts, and accessories imported subsequently to August 5, 1909, and prior to January 1, 1911.

The SPEAKER. The Clerk will report the bill by title.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

Mr. FORDNEY. Mr. Speaker, I do not wish to discuss the matter at all, unless some gentleman wants information.

The SPEAKER. The Clerk will report the bill.

The bill was read, as follows:

Be it enacted, etc., That the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to pay, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to the Linen Thread Co., of No. 96 Franklin Street, New York City, the sum of \$23,239.35, being the amount of duties collected on flax-preparatory machines, parts thereof, and accessories thereto imported subsequently to August 5, 1909, and prior to January 1, 1911.

Mr. AUSTIN. Mr. Speaker, this is unanimously recommended by the Secretary of the Treasury.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection?

Mr. KEATING. I object, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. FORDNEY. I ask the gentleman to withhold his objection a moment, when perhaps he will withdraw it.

Mr. KEATING. I withhold the objection.

Mr. FORDNEY. I wish to state to the gentleman from Colorado that this is a bill to refund, under paragraph 187 of the Payne tariff law, duties paid on machinery which under that act was to be brought in free of duty between the enactment of the law and January 1, 1911. That machinery was brought in in accordance with the law, but because of an erroneous ruling made by some man in the customs department it was held beyond the time within which the duty could be refunded under the law. Now, they come in and ask, with the consent of the Treasury Department, that a law be passed permitting the repayment of that duty. Everything was in accordance with the law, and it would have been refunded, except for a wrong ruling of the Treasury Department at that time. I hope the gentleman will withdraw his objection.



Mr. AUSTIN. I have examined this bill, and it is strongly recommended by the Treasury Department. It has been reported by the Committee on Claims of the House.

Mr. KEATING. I insist on my objection.

Subsequently,

Mr. FORDNEY. Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from Colorado withdraws his objection which he made a few minutes ago to the consideration of the bill, S. 4384, and I ask that the bill be taken up.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman from Colorado withdraws his objection. The bill has been read. The question is on the third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to a third reading, and was accordingly read the third time and passed.

On motion of Mr. FORDNEY, a motion to reconsider the last vote was laid on the table.

Mr. MANN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my colleague, Mr. CANNON, have leave to address the House for five minutes.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman from Illinois asks that his colleague, Mr. CANNON, be allowed to address the House for five minutes.

Mr. NEELY. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, unless I can get recognition—

The SPEAKER. The gentleman can not get recognition now.

Mr. NEELY. Then I object to anybody having unanimous consent.

#### EULOGIES OF PULASKI AND KOSCIUSZKO.

Mr. BARNHART. Mr. Speaker, I ask to take from the Speaker's table House concurrent resolution 59 to print and bind the proceedings upon the unveiling of the statue of Count Casimir Pulaski and Gen. Thaddeus Kosciuszko in Washington, May 11, 1910, with accompanying illustrations, and so forth, and to concur in the Senate amendments.

Mr. NEELY. Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. MANN].

The SPEAKER. The gentleman withdraws his objection. As soon as this pending resolution is disposed of the Chair will recognize the gentleman from Illinois. The Clerk will report the Senate amendments to House concurrent resolution 59.

The Senate amendments were read.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER. The question is on concurring in the Senate amendments.

The motion was agreed to.

#### THANKS TO THE SPEAKER.

Mr. MANN. I ask the Speaker to call the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. CANNON] to the chair. I desire to present a privileged resolution.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman from Illinois will take the chair. [Applause.]

Mr. CANNON took the chair as Speaker pro tempore.

Mr. MANN. Mr. Speaker—

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Illinois. [Applause.]

Mr. MANN. I rise to present a privileged resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the resolution.

The Clerk read as follows:

#### House resolution 556.

*Resolved*, That the cordial thanks of this House are presented to the Hon. CHAMP CLARK, its honored and distinguished Speaker, for the able, impartial, courteous, and dignified manner in which he has presided over its deliberations and performed the arduous and important duties of the Speakership during the present term of Congress now about to end.

[Applause.]

Mr. MANN. Mr. Speaker, I think we have the time for a moment's discussion in this connection, and I desire to pay a tribute not only to the distinguished Missourian who has presided so ably and justly over this House now for three Congresses, but to another distinguished Missourian who has been an able Member of this House for 20 years. He and I and others in the House came here together in the Fifty-fifth Congress. He is leaving the House by his own decision, and I sometimes envy him the choice he has made and the quiet and contentment with which he may pass the remaining years of his life. It is a loss to the House for him to go out. He has had the confidence and respect of the House for many years. We leaned heavily upon him, especially in matters relating to the Post Office Department, and have always valued his advice and his judgment, and I would feel remiss in my duty if I did not express to the House our sincere appreciation of the value of his services and our regret at his leaving us. We really lose a great and able Member in the loss of Mr. LLOYD, of Missouri. [Applause.]

Mr. CONNELLY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my colleague, Mr. TAGGART, of Kansas, be allowed five minutes.

Mr. MANN. I will yield to the gentleman five minutes.

Mr. TAGGART. Mr. Speaker, I shall avail myself of the few minutes assigned me to take leave of the House. I have had the honor of serving three terms in Congress, and during that time have represented one of the most progressive and enterprising districts in America. The last two terms have been under the administration of President Wilson, and I am glad to look back over the record and feel that I have faithfully supported the President of the United States in all of the great measures that he has proposed.

The memory of the many friends that I have made here, the kindness and patience with which I was listened to on the few occasions that I addressed the House, and the good fellowship of those I have met will inspire me to make the remainder of my life the best part of it. I shall always feel that I was honored most by the character of those who sat with me here, and I hope that it may be said, in the language of a principle of law, that I was known by my companions—*noscitur a sociis*. Having attained the honor of being with you was the greatest achievement of my life.

Again, in our history it may be said, as it was said before, that "These are the days that try men's souls." The fidelity and patriotism of the American people are once again put to the test. In such an hour it is my earnest hope that the ordinary rivalries of the political arena will disappear—that the petty and trifling questions that have seemed to divide the people will sink into insignificance, and that every man who wears the dignity of an American citizen will stand like Gibraltar behind the flag of the United States.

Humiliation never did secure peace; neither did discrimination and unfairness ever promote peace in the history of the world. The two Congresses in which we have served and which have dealt with our foreign relations have spared no effort to be magnificently fair. I can bear most cheerful witness to the efforts of men of all parties here to maintain the United States at peace with all the world. But we have come to that pass where the duty has arisen of protecting the lives of American citizens throughout the world. The glory of America has been tarnished by our failure to do this in the past. We have been indifferent to the fate of the American citizen that has left our border or our shore. We have abandoned him to his fate in Mexico and on the high seas. The manhood of America is called upon for a more vigorous policy than this, and I feel that this great duty will finally be well performed.

I want the American citizen to know, wherever he is under the whole heavens, that he is in the shadow of the eagle's wing. At the same time I believe it to be the patriotic duty of an American citizen to forego his private interests and to remain away from war zones and scenes of battle in this crisis. In France there is a law providing a heavy penalty for anyone who will do any act to cause a war between France and any other nation. Even the warlike and volatile people of France took this precaution long ago. It is a wise and humane law. I hope the American citizen, in addition to exposing his life to destruction by going into a war zone on a foreign ship, under a foreign flag, and committing his protection to a foreign Government, will not also bring upon his country the calamities of war. Our own ships, under our own flag, and all those who are in them, are most certainly entitled to protection on the high seas, and I have every faith to believe that the next Congress, as well as this Congress, will have the manhood to insist on this right.

If war must come, we are willing to make the same sacrifices that our fathers made. If it does come, we shall find the same truth that was discovered more than 50 years ago—that is, that all classes of men, regardless of creed or lineage, will be equally willing to serve the United States. I have no dread of the disloyalty of any American citizen. It ought to be a crime, and it is a crime, if written and published, to accuse an American citizen of disloyalty to his country where he has done no overt act to justify the accusation. If war must come, the roll of the dead on the field of honor will show names that originated in every country in western Europe—men of the soldier races of the world who were rivals in glory. [Applause.]

Should I never again have the honor to perform any duty within these walls, let me say these few words more, and let me beg whoever reads them to appreciate fully the real blessings that have been brought to mankind by the Government of the United States. There have been attempted trespasses against liberty in this land, but they were laughable. There have been thoughts of some class or separate group of people ruling this Nation, and these thoughts are still more laughable. The sovereignty of this Government is not in any officer, nor in this body, nor in the other body, but in the whole people; and



the sovereign must be true to himself. Whoever loves his neighbor most serves his country best. [Applause.]

This great inheritance must and shall be preserved. Its place in the world could not be filled if it were vacated. Let the curse of Job fall upon him who is not willing to defend this inheritance! Let the day perish in which he was born, and the night in which his history began. The more loyally men stand together in this crisis, the more certainly we can remain at peace. [Applause.]

Just a moment more. I can not, without the deepest emotion, take leave of our beloved Speaker. He is one of the few friends that I have ever had who were truly great. It might not be becoming in me to enter upon an encomium here and now upon his virtues. "His praise is hymned on loftier harps than mine." But let me say that he has that democracy which recognizes that every soul has an equal right to rise to its full measure in this world; that he has the philosophy and learning to know that a variety of thought is as essential in a republic as a variety of talent; that the nation where men are alike will stagnate and decay; that where they all think alike they will not go forward; and he has the supreme American citizenship to declare that he claims no right for himself that he is not willing to give to every human being on the face of the globe. And all these virtues are crowned with a patriotism that is without ostentation and a love for his fellow man that is as much a part of his nature as the beating of his heart. The richest reward of my service in Congress is that affection which I shall cherish for him until my last hour. The Speaker is too great to be the victim of disappointment; it has written no wrinkle on his brow. Neither chance, nor accident, nor mistake, nor the cunning plans of the ambitious could shake his faith or leave one trace of bitterness in his soul. He will go down in history as standing forth in these trying hours as one of the giant figures in American public life—

As some tall cliff that lifts its awful form,  
Swells from the vale and midway leaves the storm;  
Though round its breast the rolling clouds are spread,  
Eternal sunshine settles on its head.

[Prolonged applause.]

Mr. MANN. Mr. Speaker, if it is not trespassing on the time of the House, I yield three minutes to the gentleman from Mississippi [Mr. COLLIER].

#### REUNION BETWEEN THE BLUE AND THE GRAY.

Mr. COLLIER. Mr. Speaker, many of you recollect that during the last session of Congress the sum of \$150,000 was appropriated by Congress to help defray the expenses of carrying on the reunion between the Blue and the Gray at the peace jubilee that is going to be held on the battle field of Vicksburg next October.

That reunion is for the twofold purpose of celebrating the 50 years of peace and good-fellowship which happily exists in our American Republic, and also for the purpose of bringing together those battle-scarred veterans of the Civil War, that they might again meet, not as of yore, in the shock of conflict, but around the camp fires at Vicksburg, in jest, in story, and in pleasant reminiscence. [Applause.] Mr. Speaker, it has been over 50 years since the close of the Civil War. Those crucial days are past and gone. The smoke of battle has lifted, and instead of listening to the opening roar of thundering cannon, the ear is greeted with the busy humming of countless spindles; the air that once was filled with deadly hail of shot and shell is now colored by the smoke of many factories; and where the gunboats once hurled their thunderbolts of death and destruction, there now are seen the rippling waters of our mighty rivers dotted with countless boats and sails, and upon whose ample bosoms half the commerce of our Republic is destined to be borne.

It is my pleasing privilege, in behalf of the Vicksburg Peace Jubilee Committee, through its chairman and secretary and in behalf of the citizens of Vicksburg, to extend a sincere and cordial invitation to Congress to visit Vicksburg when you attend the reunion next October. We will give you a hearty, a sincere, a cordial welcome. We want you to see our city and meet our people. We want you to see Vicksburg, a city rich in the historic memories of the past, and bright with the glowing prospects of the future; a city whose rugged hills, furrowed with intrenchments once red with the blood of fratricidal strife, but now, thank God, marked by lofty and enduring monuments which commemorate alike the virtue and the glory and the heroism of those who, as some one so beautifully said upon this floor on another occasion, wore those colors which suggested the gray of the early morning and the blue of the noonday sky. [Applause.]

Again I say to you, I hope that you will come and visit Vicksburg. We will give you the best welcome we can, and per-

mit me to express the hope that you will have as much pleasure in visiting our city as the people of Vicksburg will experience in having you with us. [Applause.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. I think it is always in order for the Speaker—and I am the Speaker for five minutes—to say a word. I knew the present Speaker of the House for many years before I was Speaker and before he was Speaker. We had many contests. I have seen some pretty wild scenes in this hall. At times I have had feeling, sometimes of resentment, sometimes of disapproval, but as the sun came up and the sun went down from day to day in the lapse of months and years I have recognized that in a government of the people there must be organizations of party, and as the citizenry of the United States is a virile one, where there is an honest difference as to policies, there must at times be heat and sometimes thunder. I take great pleasure in saying that in all my service with the Speaker of the House, when we were upon the floor and when I was Speaker and since he has been Speaker, he has always commanded, and never more than now, my earnest approval.

The question is on agreeing to the resolution.

The resolution was agreed to unanimously.

The SPEAKER resumed the Chair.

The SPEAKER. The best service that the present occupant of the Chair can render at the present time is to be very brief. The House thanks me, and I thank the House. I want to make one or two remarks about this House. In my judgment it is the best-behaved House that has been in Washington in my time. [Laughter and applause.] Some of you new Members may not believe that, but if you had been here as long as Brother MANN or myself or especially my revered and beloved friend Mr. Speaker CANNON, you would know that what I say is the absolute and literal truth. Mr. Speaker CANNON says that he has seen wild scenes here, and so have I—among them several fights—in days long gone by. There has been hardly an intimation of an ugly scene in this House. One other word. I congratulate the House, and I do it from the bottom of my heart, that partisanship in the acute stages in which I found it 24 years ago has almost vanished from this House. It augurs well for the perpetuity of the Republic. Amid alarms, at times under intense excitement, this House has kept a level head and has done an immense amount of work. My own opinion is that the longer a man is Speaker, the more easily he performs the duties of his office. [Applause and laughter.]

Mr. MANN. Mr. Speaker, I had a request pending that my colleague, Mr. CANNON, be permitted to address the House for five minutes.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman from Illinois [Mr. CANNON] is recognized for five minutes.

#### ASHER HINDS.

Mr. CANNON. Mr. Speaker, I shall not consume the five minutes. It is greatly to my regret that I was not present in the Hall when my colleague, Mr. MANN, and the Speaker of the House referred to our colleague, Hon. ASHER HINDS. Just in a word or two I am very glad to say that I was acquainted with Mr. HINDS from the Fifty-first Congress, while he was clerk to the Speaker's table, parliamentarian under Mr. Speaker Reed, later under Mr. Speaker Henderson, and for eight years while I had the honor to be Speaker, after which time he became a Member of the House. He is a lovable character. Some man once asked another, "What is an apostle?" Well, the answer to that was easy. Then he asked, "What is an epistle?" The reply was, "An apostle is one who was on the fighting line, and an epistle was said to be the wife of an apostle." [Laughter and applause.] Mr. HINDS did not often seek the floor of the House, although when he addressed the House he always had its attention and always talked well. He was an apostle in achievement, in writing the history of this Congress for posterity, the most valuable history that has been written so far, and yet he was as kind and courteous as any woman you or I ever met. Men come and men go; the House changes rapidly. Very few men are in the House now who were here when I entered the Congress. The only one, I believe, is the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. SHERWOOD], the chairman of the Committee on Invalid Pensions. [Applause.] I think there is no one who was in the House succeeding that and the next Congress. We change rapidly. Our colleague, Mr. HINDS, sacrificed his health in bringing forth the great work that is involved in Hinds' Precedents. While it is a parliamentary work, yet it is a work that represents the progress and the contests in the House of Representatives from the beginning of the Government under the Constitution up to the time that he ceased to be clerk at the Speaker's table and became a Member of this House. I think, Mr. Speaker, 50 or 100 years from now, when somebody may ask who were the



leaders of the minority and the majority, who was Speaker now, who was Speaker for the eight years I was in the chair, and those who preceded us, there would have to be an inquiry, but Hinds' Precedents, to the historian and to the parliamentarian, will live through the centuries. [Applause.]

Mr. FITZGERALD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to address the House for five minutes.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman from New York asks unanimous consent to address the House for five minutes. Is there objection? [After a pause.] The Chair hears none.

#### REVIEW OF THE APPROPRIATIONS.

Mr. FITZGERALD. Mr. Speaker, I wish to make a statement of considerable importance to the House. It has been customary at the close of each session to have a review of the appropriations made by the Congress by the chairman of the Committee on Appropriations and by the ranking member of the minority on that committee. The unusual conditions confronting the House at this time makes impossible the character of statement that has customarily been made. It is now known as a certainty that the sundry civil bill, carrying \$139,028,513.77; the Army appropriation bill, carrying \$278,197,702.67; the general deficiency bill, carrying \$62,610,464.81; the Military Academy bill, carrying \$1,344,196.18, and the river and harbor bill, carrying \$88,899,639, will not be enacted before Congress adjourns. The aggregate of those five appropriation bills that will remain undisposed of is the enormous sum of \$520,080,516.43. Some conception of the wonderful growth and progress of the United States may be had when it is realized that 26 years ago the country was startled by the announcement that the Fifty-first Congress in two sessions had exceeded \$1,000,000,000 in the appropriations which called for the famous remark of Speaker Reed, that this was a billion-dollar Congress—

Mr. MANN. Billion-dollar country.

Mr. FITZGERALD. Billion-dollar country—but my remark was equally proper, it was a billion-dollar Republican Congress. In five of the thirteen appropriation bills are sums aggregating a sum in excess of the total appropriations for any session of Congress prior to the Fifty-first, except during the Civil War, and because of such unusual conditions it is impossible, until Congress reconvenes and the bills are disposed of, to make any statement of any value.

I wish before I conclude, speaking what I believe to be the unanimous sentiment of the Democratic side of the House, to express its appreciation for the very generous tribute which, upon the motion of the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. MANN], was paid to the Speaker of this House. [Applause.] However we may be tried at times and however acrimonious the controversies between the two sides, underlying all in this House is a great patriotic friendship that is sincere and loyal between men upon both sides of the House. We appreciate, if the Republican side does not, the industry, the integrity, the capacity, and the ability of the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. MANN]. [Applause.]

Whenever I am inclined to boast of being an industrious man I think of him and restrain my inclination. He is the best-informed Member of Congress whom I have known in my 18 years of service, and I am speaking the unanimous sentiment of the Democratic side of the House when I express the hope that the Republicans in the Sixty-fifth Congress will have sufficient common sense to elect the gentleman from Illinois minority leader in that body. [Applause.]

#### INAUGURAL CEREMONIES.

Mr. MANN. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman from North Carolina yield to me to ask him a question?

Mr. KITCHIN. I will.

Mr. MANN. I think we ought to have some understanding about to-morrow. Members of the House have invitations, of course, for the Senate galleries and the right of the Members themselves to go upon the floor of the Senate to-morrow when the Vice President is sworn in.

Now, we ought to know whether it is the desire to meet here and go over there in a body or whether we shall straggle in as we please.

Mr. FITZGERALD. I suggest that the House should proceed to the Senate with the Speaker at its head, although he may not technically be the Speaker of the House.

Mr. KITCHIN. It is my opinion that we should do that, and I understand that is the provision in the official program.

The SPEAKER. It is the Chair's understanding that the House will meet here at 11.30 a. m., in this Hall, and that we will all go over together. It will make a better impression.

Mr. KITCHIN. Mr. Speaker—

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina [Mr. KITCHIN]. [Loud applause.]

#### MINORITY LEADER MANN.

Mr. KITCHIN. Mr. Speaker, I trust the House will indulge me just a moment to say something that I think the country ought to know.

Mr. Speaker, the House, Democrats and Republicans alike, have met every responsibility and performed every duty imposed upon it by the Constitution and by the country. [Applause.] We have passed every needful appropriation bill. Recognizing that responsibility and that duty, we have on our part supplied the Government with the authority and the means to perform all of its functions. If hereafter, when this Congress adjourns, the Government finds itself embarrassed for want of full and ample authority and means to maintain itself the fault will lie, not with this House, but with another body. [Applause.]

If the President should find this country in the midst of a sudden emergency, and should look about him for authority and means to protect the rights of American ships and American citizens from unlawful attacks upon the high seas and find it not, the fault will lie, not with this body, but with another body. [Applause.] I believe, Mr. Speaker, that the country ought to know this truth.

While that was all I intended to say, I will avail myself of the opportunity as majority leader to thank and express to the distinguished gentleman from Illinois [Mr. MANN], and to the minority under his superb leadership, my sincere appreciation of their generous cooperation with me and the majority in expediting all needful legislation, not only during this session but during the last session. [Applause.]

Since I have been a Member of this House, now 16 years, there never has been in any Congress less partisan bitterness, less partisan unpleasantness than in this Congress which is about to expire. In all matters not partisan the Republicans, under the leadership of my distinguished friend from Illinois, Mr. MANN, have heartily cooperated with us. In matters partisan he and the minority have resorted to no filibustering tactics nor thrown any unreasonable obstruction in our path, but they have had the courage to come to a showdown in all votes and put responsibility where it belonged, ready and willing for time to test the wisdom of our actions. [Applause.]

I want to say one more word concerning the minority leader. I must say that before I became majority leader I thought he was a mighty partisan kind of a fellow. I used to think that he was a little mean sometimes in not permitting this man or that man to get up some bill by unanimous consent; but I have watched him more closely and have been thrown in closer contact with him in the last two years, and have come to regard him as one of the most useful and patriotic men that ever sat in this body. [Applause.] I have had many conferences with him in the last two years, as majority and minority leaders must have, and there has never been one unkind word, one ungenerous feeling, one unpleasant difference between the gentleman and myself. We have differed when the principles and policies of our parties compelled us to differ, but he has always treated me with the utmost courtesy, with perfect candor, and he has never budged a hair's breadth from any promise he has ever made to me or to the majority party. [Applause.] It is a genuine pleasure to acknowledge in this presence my indebtedness to him for his aid and assistance and cooperation with us in all matters of procedure and nonpartisan legislation. I am glad to record here my esteem and my affection for him and to pay my tribute to his exalted character, his high integrity, his matchless industry, his magnificent ability, his lofty patriotism. [Loud applause.]

Mr. NEELY. Mr. Speaker—

Mr. MANN. I hope the gentleman will let me have a few minutes.

Mr. NEELY. I can not yield any further. I have yielded for two days, and I insist on my rights. However, how much time does the gentleman want? I would be glad to yield, but I understand there is going to be an adjournment at 12 o'clock, and I have an important matter of legislation I want to present to this House.

Mr. MANN. I want to say a word about the majority leader, but I can not do it if the gentleman will not yield.

Mr. NEELY. Very well. After that I will not yield to anybody.

Mr. MANN. Mr. Speaker, I think the most impressive scene I have ever witnessed was when we counted the electoral vote, where amidst joke and laughter and constant expressions of good nature we entered the formal declaration of the result of a bitterly contested election, which was very close in the States which decided it. But that represented the great power of the American Republic, the good nature of the people personally who enter into political contests. That extends to this House.



When Mr. KITCHIN became the majority leader of this House he entered upon a very difficult task. He has kept the admiration of the Democratic end of the House and he has won the admiration of the Republican side of the House. [Applause.] It is due largely to him that we passed through this session of Congress with but little bitter partisan feeling.

His firmness, combined with good nature, render him a remarkable leader. While I should like to have had time to say more in regard to him, I want to express the feeling of the Republican side of the House, and I believe the feeling of all the Members on both sides of the House, of our sincere affection and respect for his remarkable qualities and for his kindness and able leadership of the whole House. [Applause.]

#### SUITS AGAINST THE UNITED STATES.

Mr. NEELY. Mr. Speaker, I move to take Senate bill 5126 from the Speaker's table, suspend the rules, and pass the bill.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman from West Virginia moves to take from the Speaker's table Senate bill 5126, suspend the rules, and pass the bill. The Clerk will report the bill.

The Clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 5126) giving the consent of the United States for the bringing of certain suits in the Supreme Court of the United States, and for other purposes.

*Be it enacted, etc.,* That any State which now has or hereafter shall have a cause of action against the United States, which, as between individuals, would be cognizable in a court of justice, is hereby authorized to sue the United States thereon in the Supreme Court of the United States. The United States shall have the right in any such suit to interpose any counter claim, set-off, equitable or other defense which could be made by the defendant were such suit between individuals.

The SPEAKER. Is a second demanded?

Mr. VOLSTEAD. I demand a second.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman from Minnesota demands a second.

Mr. NEELY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that a second be considered as ordered.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman from West Virginia asks unanimous consent that a second be considered as ordered. Is there objection?

Mr. VOLSTEAD. I object.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman from Minnesota objects.

Mr. NEELY. Let us have tellers, then, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. Tellers are demanded. The Chair appoints the gentleman from Minnesota [Mr. VOLSTEAD] and the gentleman from West Virginia [Mr. NEELY] to act as tellers.

The House divided; and the tellers reported—ayes 120, noes 134.

So a second was refused.

#### JOINT COMMITTEE ON PNEUMATIC-TUBE SERVICE.

The SPEAKER. The Chair appoints Mr. ROUSE, of Kentucky, as a member of the Joint Committee on the Pneumatic Tube Service in lieu of Judge MOON, who declines; and the Chair asks to have Judge MOON's letter printed in the RECORD.

The following is the letter referred to:

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 4, 1917.

Mr. SPEAKER: Having served on the conference committee on the Post Office and Post Roads bill, and upon a full investigation expressed my opinion against the continuation of the pneumatic-tube service as it now exists in certain cities, it would, I think, be unjust to the tube companies for me to act as a member of the tube commission appointed by you yesterday, and therefore resign from said commission.

Yours, etc.,

JOHN A. MOON.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

A message from the President of the United States, communicated to the House of Representatives by Mr. Sharkey, announced that the President had approved and signed bills and joint resolutions of the following titles:

On March 3, 1917:

H. R. 20573. An act to provide increased revenue to defray the expenses of the increased appropriations for the Army and Navy and the extensions of fortifications, and for other purposes;

H. R. 19119. An act making appropriations to provide for the expenses of the government of the District of Columbia for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1918, and for other purposes;

H. R. 19300. An act making appropriations for the Diplomatic and Consular Service for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1918;

H. R. 19410. An act making appropriations for the service of the Post Office Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1918, and for other purposes;

H. R. 20748. An act making appropriations for the payment of invalid and other pensions of the United States for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1918, and for other purposes;

H. R. 18542. An act making appropriations for the legislative, executive, and judicial expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1918, and for other purposes;

H. R. 5948. An act for the relief of Hays Gaskill;

H. R. 20082. An act to amend an act entitled "An act to authorize the establishment of a Bureau of War-Risk Insurance in the Treasury Department," approved September 2, 1914;

H. R. 20451. An act granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Civil War and certain widows and dependent children of soldiers and sailors of said war;

H. J. Res. 334. Joint resolution authorizing the President to appoint delegates to attend the tenth international congress of the World's Purity Federation, to be held in the city of Louisville, State of Kentucky, November 8 to 14, 1917;

H. J. Res. 335. Joint resolution for the appointment of four members of the Board of Managers of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers;

H. R. 20755. An act to provide a temporary government for the West Indian Islands acquired by the United States from Denmark by the convention entered into between said countries on the 4th day of August, 1916, and ratified by the Senate of the United States on the 7th day of September, 1916, and for other purposes;

H. R. 12030. An act to amend an act entitled "An Act to provide for the disposal of certain lands in the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation, N. Dak.," approved August 3, 1914;

H. R. 20496. An act granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy and certain soldiers and sailors of wars other than the Civil War and to widows of such soldiers and sailors; and

H. R. 20827. An act granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy and certain soldiers and sailors of wars other than the Civil War and to widows of such soldiers and sailors.

On March 4, 1917:

H. R. 655. An act to pension the survivors of certain Indian wars from January 1, 1859, to January, 1891, inclusive, and for other purposes;

H. J. Res. 390. Joint resolution to expedite the delivery of materials, equipment, and munitions and to secure more expeditious construction of ships;

H. J. Res. 392. Joint resolution providing that section 5 of an act making appropriations for the service of the Post Office Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1918, shall not be in effect until July 1, 1917;

H. J. Res. 393. Joint resolution making appropriations for the construction and operation of railroads in the Territory of Alaska;

H. R. 20632. An act making appropriations for the naval service for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1918, and for other purposes; and

H. R. 19359. An act making appropriations for the Department of Agriculture for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1918.

#### ENROLLED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS SIGNED.

Mr. LAZARO, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported that they had examined and found truly enrolled bills and joint resolutions of the following titles, when the Speaker signed the same:

H. J. Res. 392. Joint resolution providing that section 5 of an act making appropriations for the service of the Post Office Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1918, shall not be in effect until July 1, 1917;

H. J. Res. 390. Joint resolution to expedite the delivery of materials, equipment, and munitions and to secure more expeditious construction of ships;

H. R. 20632. An act making appropriations for the naval service for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1918, and for other purposes; and

H. R. 19359. An act making appropriations for the Department of Agriculture for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1918.

The SPEAKER announced his signature to enrolled bills of the following titles:

S. 8120. An act granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Regular Army and Navy and of wars other than the Civil War, and to certain widows and dependent relatives of such soldiers and sailors;

S. 5270. An act for a public building at Paris, Tex.;

S. 4384. An act providing for the refund of duties collected on flax-preparatory machines, parts, and accessories imported subsequently to August 5, 1909, and prior to January 1, 1911;

S. 8316. An act granting a pension to Edith Blankart Funston, widow of the late Maj. Gen. Frederick Funston;



S. 7710. An act to amend the irrigation act of March 3, 1891 (26 Stat., 1095), section 18, and to amend section 2 of the act of May 11, 1898 (30 Stat., 404); and

S. 7706. An act for the relief of Guy A. Richards, Jesse L. Robbins, Isaac M. C. Grimes, William L. Irvine, and David Cox.

ENROLLED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS PRESENTED TO THE  
PRESIDENT FOR HIS APPROVAL.

Mr. LAZARO, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported that this day they had presented to the President of the United States for his approval the following bills and joint resolutions:

H. J. Res. 393. Joint resolution making appropriations for the construction and operation of railroads in the Territory of Alaska;

H. J. Res. 392. Joint resolution providing that section 5 of an act making appropriations for the service of the Post Office Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1918, shall not be in effect until July 1, 1917;

H. J. Res. 390. Joint resolution to expedite the delivery of materials, equipment, and munitions, and to secure more expeditious construction of ships;

H. R. 20632. An act making appropriations for the naval service for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1918, and for other purposes; and

H. R. 19359. An act making appropriations for the Department of Agriculture for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1918.

WITHDRAWAL OF PAPERS.

Mr. LANGLEY, by unanimous consent, was granted leave to withdraw from the files of the House, without leaving copies, papers in the following cases, no adverse reports having been made thereon:

John F. Rudd.

James Mosley.

Sylvester B. Miller.

H. Clay Colson, H. R. 19476.

William Freeman, H. R. 7199.

J. P. Neikirk, H. R. 14883.

Robert McCarthy, H. R. 5330.

Robert McDowell.

Byron W. Kash.

George W. Blanton, H. R. 8987.

Isaac Daniel Gibson, H. R. 20101.

Leslie Higgins, H. R. 17927.

TELEPHONE SERVICE AT THE CAPITOL.

Mr. MILLER of Delaware. Mr. Speaker, I present a privileged resolution from the Committee on Accounts.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman from Delaware presents a privileged resolution from the Committee on Accounts, which the Clerk will report.

The Clerk read as follows:

House Resolution 490 (H. Rept. No. 1623).

Resolved, That the three telephone operators now authorized to be employed from December 1, 1916, to March 31, 1917, continue to be employed during the period between March 31 and December 31, 1917, and be paid out of the contingent fund of the House, at the rate of \$75 per month.

With a committee amendment, as follows:

Amend, line 5, by striking out the words "December 31" and inserting in lieu thereof "November 30."

The SPEAKER. The question is on agreeing to the amendment.

The amendment was agreed to.

The SPEAKER. The question is on agreeing to the resolution as amended.

The resolution as amended was agreed to.

EXTENSION OF REMARKS.

Mr. KEY of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to extend my remarks in the RECORD on the Indian wars pension bill.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman already has that privilege.

LEAVE TO ADDRESS THE HOUSE.

Mr. MANN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the gentleman from Oklahoma [Mr. MURRAY] be permitted to address the House for three minutes.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman from Illinois asks unanimous consent that the gentleman from Oklahoma [Mr. MURRAY] be permitted to address the House for three minutes. Is there objection?

There was no objection.

Mr. MURRAY. Mr. Speaker, it has been my privilege to enter the Sixty-third Congress and serve four years during the greatest crisis of the present generation. I retire in a few

minutes with this House [laughter], but in parting I can not resist the temptation of expressing my regret, my only sorrow, on breaking the association with friends made on both sides of the aisle.

If I had the time I should recite the pleasant relations with the Members of the four committees upon which I have served, but I shall conclude with but this sentence: When I came here, Mr. Speaker, you had the right, perhaps, to feel that I had wronged you in crossing the path of your ambition in 1912—I did not know you then—but from the first day until this hour you have treated me with the greatest consideration. [Applause.] So much so that after I returned to my State from the first 12 months of my service here I told the people of Oklahoma that CHAMP CLARK was the fairest man I ever knew.

Posterity will wonder why CHAMP CLARK was never President, and it is the duty of this generation to make him President while he lives. [Applause.]

FINAL ADJOURNMENT.

The SPEAKER. The hour of 12 o'clock having arrived, under the Constitution I declare the House in the Sixty-fourth Congress adjourned sine die. God bless you all. [Applause.]

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND  
RESOLUTIONS.

Under clause 2 of Rule XIII, bills and resolutions were severally reported from committees, delivered to the Clerk, and referred to the several calendars therein named, as follows:

Mr. CLARK of Florida, from the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, to which was referred the bill (S. 5086) amending section 4 of the public buildings act approved March 4, 1913, providing for the purchase of a site for a building for post office and customhouse at Nogales, Ariz., reported the same without amendment, accompanied by a report (No. 1634), which said bill and report were referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HENRY, from the Committee on Rules, to which was referred the resolution (H. Res. 532) for the immediate consideration of the bill (S. 5126) giving the consent of the United States for the bringing of certain suits in the Supreme Court of the United States, and for other purposes, reported the same without amendment, accompanied by a report (No. 1636), which said resolution and report were referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

PUBLIC BILLS, RESOLUTIONS, AND MEMORIALS.

Under clause 3 of Rule XXII, bills, resolutions, and memorials were introduced and severally referred as follows:

By Mr. DILLON: Memorial of Legislature of South Dakota, urging Congress to provide at the Little Bend and the Big Bend of the Missouri River in South Dakota for the development of electric power for pumping water for irrigation of agricultural lands, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce.

Also, memorial of Legislature of the State of South Dakota, favoring legislation for the development of power on the Missouri River through the Reclamation Service; to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce.

PETITIONS, ETC.

Under clause 1 of Rule XXII, petitions and papers were laid on the Clerk's desk and referred as follows:

By Mr. DENISON: Petitions of 52 citizens, of 23 citizens, of 56 citizens, and of 142 citizens, all of Randolph County, Ill., for a Christian amendment to the Constitution of the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DILLON: Petition of sundry citizens in favor of a referendum on war; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. ELSTON: Telegraphic memorial of the Livermore Echo, of Alameda County, Cal., proposing means to avoid war; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. GRIEST: Petition of 70 citizens of Lancaster County, Pa., for a Christian amendment to the Constitution of the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MORIN: Petition of Chamber of Commerce of Pittsburgh, Pa., Mr. Logan McKee, secretary, opposing the passage of the proposed Poindexter bill, S. 5704; to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce.

By Mr. HULBERT: Memorial of Congressional Union for Woman Suffrage, for woman suffrage; to the Committee on the Judiciary.



Also, memorial of New York Produce Exchange, in re foreign situation; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Also, memorial of Society of Colonial Wars, pledging loyalty to the President and Government in international situation; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. PHELAN: Memorial of mass meeting of 5,000 Lithuanians, of Lawrence, Mass., opposing war; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Also, memorial of Lynn Hebrew Benevolent Society, pledging loyalty and support to the President of the United States; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. ROWE: Petition of sundry citizens of New York, against going to war; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Also, memorial of National Grange, Patrons of Husbandry, against the Underwood oleomargarine amendment to the revenue bill; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Also, memorial of Chamber of Commerce of the State of New York, on reduction of war profits; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Also, petition of sundry citizens, opposing war; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Also, memorial of Chamber of Commerce of the State of New York, on preparedness; to the Committee on Military Affairs.

By Mr. SNELL: Order of Helen M. Parker, department president of the Woman's Relief Corps, auxiliary to the Grand Army of the Republic, Department of New York, consisting of over 10,000 members, offering their services to the Nation if needed; to the Committee on Military Affairs.

By Mr. TAYLOR of Arkansas (by request): Petition of Fred Kirshoff, G. A. Meyer, and others, of Stuttgart, Ark., against this Nation going to war because of Americans being injured at sea; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. WM. ELZA WILLIAMS: Petition of First Baptist Mothers' Club, of Decatur, Ill., for prohibition legislation; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Also, petition of various citizens of La Salle, Ill., and Streator, Ill., for war referendum; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Also, proclamation of Socialist Party of Livingston, Ill., against war; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Also, petition of citizens of East St. Louis, Ill., and various members of Baptist Sunday School, Decatur, Ill., for prohibition legislation; to the Committee on the Judiciary.